

27 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM : [REDACTED]

25X1A9a

SUBJECT: Rehabilitation of Mobile Communication Assets

I. BACKGROUND

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Several inquiries have been received pertaining to possible modification of certain Mobile and Transportable Communications Systems. Notably, [REDACTED] came in requesting authority to install Radio-Teletype capability to 2ST's; a 6ST was returned from an operation and requires refurbishing; and originally, Project E-209 was established in August 1961 to renovate [REDACTED]

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In addition to the above specific instances, there has long been a general feeling that KMCMB has been falling behind in maintaining a Mobile Communication capability, while the military services and commercial manufacturers have gone ahead with development, integrating new equipments, systems and techniques into transportable and mobile configurations.

II. PRESENT SITUATION

Scattered world wide, in various depots, warehouses and parking lots, KMCMB has a variety of mobile communications systems in various degrees of readiness or non-readiness to satisfy emergency, back-up and other quick-reaction type communications requirements. A descriptive summary of these systems, along with their locations, is shown in Attachment A.

Correspondence has been directed to the various Area or Activity Staffs concerned with these systems, requesting a thorough physical inventory and survey of the units. The results of the survey, along with field comments regarding serviceability, operability, and recommendations toward modification and utilization, are to be returned to Headquarters Engineering. These data will enable a detailed analysis of the cost and feasibility of renovating and modifying our Mobile Communications.

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On the basis of known information regarding the condition of certain units and extrapolation to the total problem, we have arrived at a tentative estimate of (in round figures) \$1,250,000. to up-date our present assets. Included in our costs are such items as:

- (1) Addition of Radio-Teletype capability to those systems not so equipped.
- (2) Modernization of all systems to include installation of new and standard receivers, transmitters, teletype and ancillary equipment in place of obsolete types.
- (3) Addition of SSB transmission and reception capability for multiplexing.
- (4) Repair and renovation of shelters, vans, trailers and tractors.

Reiterating, this is a tentative estimate, subject to revision on the basis of more recent and complete data.

III. POSSIBLE COURSES OF ACTION

A. Maintain present systems with appropriate service and repair

(1) Advantages:

- a. Least expensive

(2) Disadvantages:

- a. Obsolete equipment
- b. Inadequate capability
- c. Increasing maintenance costs due to lack of spare parts for communication equipment and rolling stock.

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B. Modernize and expand present assets

(1) Advantages:

- a. Overcomes disadvantages. (a and b above)
- b. Makes use of existing rolling stock
- c. Many units could be re-worked in the field, saving contracting and transportation costs.
- d. Can be initiated at least in part with "on-hand" equipment

(2) Disadvantages:

- a. Would require procurement of some individual equipments and systems from manufacturers and transportation to the field.
- b. Would require re-wiring and, in some cases, rebuilding of trailers and vans.
- c. Would require installation of increased power plant capacity in some cases, i.e., new and larger generators.
- d. Would result in an amalgam of new and old equipment and comprise a patch-work of equipments and systems.

C. Procure new and complete systems, including transportable shelters, self-contained truck-mounted units, and rolling stock.

(1) Advantages:

- a. "Clean slate" approach
- b. Takes maximum advantage of developments in "state of the art".

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- c. Possible procurement under military contractual auspices with some savings in cost.
- d. Would result in more nearly standard installations, with uniformity of equipments and systems.

(2) Disadvantages:

- a. Systems assembly expensive, maybe even prohibitively high.
- b. Would require long lead time for production, assembly and transportation of systems.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OC-E ACTION

- A. Continue present efforts to survey existing facilities.
- B. Gather data on military and commercially available systems.
- C. Determine exact and long-term requirements in conjunction with OC-OS.
- D. As more complete data and firm requirements become known, analyze existing assets and feasible improvements thereto as compared with the cost and feasibility of various alternate approaches.
- E. Determine most desirable course of action and take necessary steps to implement (budget, program, procurement, MWO's, et al).

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Attachment:

Mobile Communication Systems, Summary of

Distribution:

- Original - Routing/File
- 1 - Project File
- 2 - Monthly Report
- 1 - Chrono

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